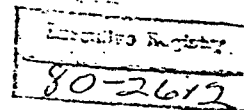


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1 December 1980

OS REGISTRY
FILE Sec 18

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Military Assistant to the DCI
FROM :
SA to the DCI for Compartmentation
SUBJECT : APEX - Status of Issue Papers

1. As of 1:00 PM on 1 December, I expect two issue papers before COB from the SAFSS. The first will be concerned with the APEX prohibition of compartmenting codewords. It will make a plea that the past practice of compartmenting codewords and project indicators have kept such words off Soviet intelligence target lists and that compartmentation is essential to the compartmentation concept. This issue was decided in the Final Report by prohibiting compartmentation of codewords out of context. I continue to hold that view. The second SAFSS issue is related and will, I think, make a plea that the various APEX policies and procedures be subjected to a counterintelligence evaluation by an outside group.

2. There are four issue papers expected from the Department of Defense (less NSA and SAFSS). They are in the process of coordination among the various Defense Department agencies. The current plan is for Admiral Murphy to forward the four, noting the degree of coordination within DoD. I expect that the memorandum from Murphy with the four attachments will be delivered to the Director at his 10:30 meeting tomorrow, 2 December. I have been promised advance copies tonight if they are available. They will deal with:

- Desire for more simplified APEX procedures and structure. This is a fine objective, but implementation will break rice bowls and fly in the face of NSA, SAFSS, and Special Navy practices.

WORKING PAPER
DESTROY 1 January 1981

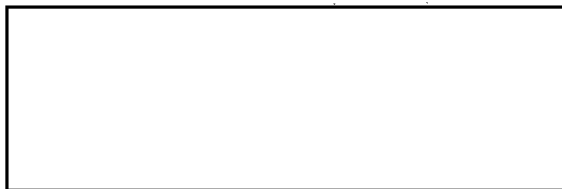
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- There will be a new issue paper on resources. I expect it will continue to say document control, as required by Executive Order 12065 et al, is not possible without many new people.
- One paper will deal with imagery. It will clarify and elaborate on General Tighe's theme from the 24 November NFIB meeting and will take issue with many of the points in the COMIREX paper of last spring which set out decompartmentation rules for the KH-11.
- The last of these DoD issue papers will deal with COMINT. My contacts are not willing to state precisely what is involved until their principals sign off. I suspect it will reopen the whole issue as to whether or not significantly greater quantities of COMINT can or should be decompartmented. It will argue again, I think, with the Final Report conclusion that COMINT cannot safely be taken out of SCI channels.

3. I will forward whatever I get as soon as I get it. If the material is delivered directly to the DCI, I would appreciate copies as soon as possible.



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cc: DDCI

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SA/DCI/C [redacted] b (1 December 1980)

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